

REMARKS

Claims 14-26 and 28-33 are in the application. Due consideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office action of December 5, 2003, correction of the text of the specification at page 8, line 5, was required. The specification has been carefully reviewed and the required correction is made herein. The Summary of the Invention is also amended to conform with the allowed claims.

Claims 5, 6, 17 and 18 were rejected on formal grounds under 35 U.S.C. § 112 (2d par.) for having indefinite terminology (a "converter"). Applicant submits that the claims as presently amended should overcome the formal rejection.

Claims 7, 19, and 25-28 were rejected only for being dependent on claims that were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) or 103(a) in view of US Patents No. 6,295,461 (Palmer, et al.) and No. 4,646,097 (King); and GEC-Marconi Proposal 3-6057 (cited by applicant). Claims 7, 19, and 25-28 were otherwise found allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-13 and 27 are now canceled. Claims 14-21, 23, 25, 26 and 28 are amended, and new claims 29-33 are added. Specifically, claim 19 is rewritten in independent form and is therefore ready for allowance. Claims 14-18, 20-25, and 28 now depend directly or indirectly upon claim 19, and are therefore also allowable. New claim 29 corresponds to allowable claim 28 as rewritten in independent form, and claims 26 and 30-33 depend directly or indirectly upon claim 29. Accordingly, claims 26 and 29-33 are also ready for allowance.

Change of Correspondence Address

The undersigned attorney filed a Change of Correspondence form PTO/SB/122 on November 26, 2002. A copy of the form and of a return receipt postcard from the PTO are attached to this amendment. Please direct all future correspondence to the undersigned at the address provided on the form PTO/SB/122.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of all the pending claims and passing of the application to issue, are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments (2)